

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

CLAIM 1 (cancelled)

CLAIM 2 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 21 wherein said first internal area is a compartment is located inside a cover portion of said body member or inside one or more chambers within said body member, said compartment proximate said externally accessible opening into which the capsule is inserted and held therein during operation of incision of said capsule so as to aid in proper dispersion of the powdered medicaments into the second internal area.

CLAIM 3 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 21 wherein said means for splitting the said capsule is comprised of a cutting element, said cutting element comprised of a blade or pointed element.

CLAIM 4 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 51 wherein said means for delivering the powdered medicaments includes a mouthpiece in communication with said second internal area from which the user can inhale the released powdered medicaments.

CLAIM 5 (currently amended) ~~The inhaling device according to claim 3,~~ An inhaling device for dispersing through the respiratory tract a dose of powdered medicaments contained in a capsule, said device comprising:

a body member having an externally accessible opening for positioning a capsule containing powdered medicaments at least partially within a first internal area within said body member;
means for splitting the capsule to release the powdered

medicaments into a second internal area of said body member;
and

means for delivering to a user the released powdered
medicaments contained within the body member;

wherein said first internal area is a compartment is
located inside a cover portion of said body member or inside
one or more chambers within said body member, said compartment
proximate said externally accessible opening into which the
capsule is inserted and held therein during operation of
incision of said capsule so as to aid in proper dispersion of
the powdered medicaments into the second internal area;

wherein said means for splitting said capsule is comprised
of a cutting element, said cutting element comprised of a blade
or pointed element;

wherein the cutting element that cuts the capsule moves up
and down by means of a spring.

CLAIM 6 (currently amended) ~~The inhaling device of claim 1~~
An inhaling device for dispersing through the respiratory tract
a dose of powdered medicaments contained in a capsule, said
device comprising:

a body member having an externally accessible opening for
positioning a capsule containing powdered medicaments at least
partially within a first internal area within said body member;

means for splitting the capsule to release the powdered
medicaments into a second internal area of said body member;
and

means for delivering to a user the released powdered
medicaments contained within the body member;

wherein said body member comprising a first chamber with a
cover at one end, a second chamber cooperatively connected to
said first chamber at said first chamber's opposite end, and a
lower chamber cooperatively connected to a bottom end of said
second chamber, said lower chamber including an aperture

therein, said aperture adapted to house the released powdered medicaments.

CLAIM 7 (cancelled)

CLAIM 8 (previously presented) The inhaling device of claim 21 wherein said means for preventing comprises a reservoir having a series of slots on its walls to allow the released powdered medicaments to travel therethrough.

CLAIM 9 (previously presented) The inhaling device of claim 5 further comprising a cover for covering the first chamber, said cover having two outer protrusions on a wall portion that stop under a pair of inner protrusions of the first chamber, thereby preventing the cover from accidentally escaping from its place.

CLAIM 10 (previously presented) The inhaling device of claim 9 further comprising means to allow the cover to move perpendicularly with respect to a positioned capsule until the cover abuts the inner protrusions, wherein said spring, inside the first chamber, touches an outer edge of the hollow portion of said second chamber on its lower side and an inner surface of the cover on its upper side.

CLAIM 11 (previously presented) The inhaling device of claim 8 wherein said means for splitting is a pointed element within said cover which passes through said spring when pressure is applied to the cover to perforate the capsule thereby releasing the powder medicament.

CLAIM 12 (previously presented) The inhaling device according to claim 11, wherein the capsule is positioned in a substantially horizontal position when the cover is vertical, or in a substantially vertical position when the cover is horizontal thereby allowing the cutting element to perforate the capsule when the cover is pressed respectively down in a vertical and perpendicular direction towards the capsule, or

laterally, in a horizontal and perpendicular direction towards the capsule.

CLAIM 13 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 53, wherein the operation of incision of the capsule and consequent inhalation of the powdered medicament by the user can be performed by holding the inhaling device with one hand, and rotating a cover with the other hand until the cutting element connected to the cover touches a lower part of the capsule and the device is placed in the user's mouth and the powdered drug inhaled.

CLAIMS 14-20 (cancelled)

CLAIM 21 (currently amended) ~~The inhaling device of claim 1~~ An inhaling device for dispersing through the respiratory tract a dose of powdered medicaments contained in a capsule, said device comprising:

a body member having an externally accessible opening for positioning a capsule containing powdered medicaments at least partially within a first internal area within said body member;

means for splitting the capsule to release the powdered medicaments into a second internal area of said body member;
and

means for delivering to a user the released powdered medicaments contained within the body member;

further comprising means for preventing the cut capsule and at least some aggregated released powdered medicament from entering into the second internal area.

CLAIM 22 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 35 wherein the cutting element is made of plastic or other suitable material ensuring necessary stiffness, such that a sufficiently moderate force may split the capsule by means of the rotation of the cutting element.

CLAIM 23 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 51, wherein the body member can be formed by two parts

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that can be assembled to each other.

CLAIM 24 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 51, wherein said device can be conveniently and easily carried, due to its small size, and can simplify and reduce operations that must be performed for the inhalation of the powdered medicament by the user, the shape and position of the chambers of the device allowing the user to perform the operation of the incision of the capsule and consequent inhalation of the powdered medicament with a single hand, using a single finger to cause the incision of the capsule, while with the rest of the hand of the user can place the device into his or her mouth and the powdered medicament inhaled.

CLAIM 25 (currently amended) The inhaling device according to claim 51, wherein the body member is made of plastic material and may be disposed of after each use, so as to guarantee the greatest comfort.

CLAIM 26 (currently amended) The inhaling device of claim 51 further comprising means for filtering the powdered medicaments disposed within said body member.

CLAIM 27 (previously presented) The inhaling device of claim 26 wherein said means for filtering comprising a porous filter capable of holding any possible piece of the powdered medicament not completely pulverized.